

ing. We cannot afford the kinds of hatreds and wedge issues that have been too much a staple of our politics in modern times.

Think about the rest of the world. There is no country—no country as well-positioned as the United States for the 21st century. But we have to make a decision. Are we all part of one village? Do we want to say, “You’re on your own?” Do we really believe that we’re all created equal in the eyes of God, or do we need to have somebody to look down on so we can feel important? I think you know the answer to that.

I think we ought to build a bridge to the 21st century that is wide and strong so that we can say to anybody we run across, any man or woman, boy, or girl without regard to anything else, “All you have to do is believe in the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, show up for work tomorrow or for school, do your best, obey the law, love your neighbor as yourself, and you’re part of our community and we’re willing to walk with you into the future.” Will you help me build that bridge? [Applause] We need you, Washington.

Thank you, and God bless you, and God bless America. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:36 p.m. at the Pike Place Market. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Remarks to the Saxophone Club in Seattle

September 18, 1996

**The President.** Thank you. Thank you very much. Believe it or not, we can almost see most of you way in the back and up there. Thank you.

I want to begin by just thanking all of you for being here tonight.

**Audience member.** Where’s Hillary? [Laughter]

**The President.** Well, Hillary is on her way here. She’s been in Denver. We’re going to leave for the bus trip here tomorrow, so sometime in the next hour and a half she’ll be here.

I want to thank you Tom Skeritt for introducing me and for being a good friend and supporter. I know you’re all proud of him.

I want to thank all the musicians who played tonight, and this is a Saxophone Club event; we’ve got five saxophones back here. Let’s give them all a hand. [Applause] Thank you.

I want to tell you how proud I am to be here with these fine folks who are up on the stage with me. Gary Locke is going to be a great Governor of Washington State. And you can be proud of him. I want to thank my good friend Congressman Norm Dicks for being here and ask for your support for him. And I want to briefly introduce all these other gentlemen behind me because they’re going to give you a chance to undo that revolution that Mr. Gingrich brought us 2 years ago.

So I’d like to ask them to give you a wave as I call their names: Kevin Quigley; Rick Locke; Brian Baird; Jeff Coopersmith; and this gentleman got more votes than the incumbent Congressman last night and will again November, Adam Smith. [Applause] Thank you. Thank you.

Now, were any of you in the Pike Street Market today? I hope you didn’t get pneumonia. I couldn’t believe that you waited in the rain. You should know I just got the latest figures. I understand that 35,000 people were put through the mags at the rally tonight. So I thank you for that. I am very grateful for your presence here tonight and for your support.

**Audience member.** Play the sax!

**The President.** No, I can’t do that. After the election, I’ll play, after the election. No, I’m not going to do it. You might as well stop now; I’m not going to do it. [Laughter]

You know, that’s the way they were when they passed that budget and shut the Government down. I told them I wasn’t going to put up with that, either. I didn’t do it. [Laughter] After the election, I’ll play, after the election. I’ve got to get my skill level back up. After the election, I’ll do that.

Let me tell you something, this election in 7 weeks—or to be precise, 6 weeks and 6 days—is going to have a huge impact on what your country looks like in 50 years. You know that, and you’re determined to make it come out right, or you wouldn’t be here tonight, and you certainly wouldn’t be in such a good humor, with such high spirits, with such high energy.

But I want to ask you tonight to take the energy, the enthusiasm, the spirit that you're manifesting here and take it out all across this community, all across this State, to your friends in other States for 6 weeks and 6 days. If you'll give us 6 weeks and 6 days, we'll give you 4 great years. And I need your help.

You know, if you look around, if you just look around Seattle today and the State of Washington, you see a lot of living examples of what I am trying so hard to do for America's future. You know, I want to build a bridge to the future that has a growing economy in which everybody can participate, not just a few, but everybody. That's why it's important to stop those who tried to cut back on education and instead make a college education available to everybody, bring the Internet to every classroom, make sure we have world-class opportunities.

I want us to go forward as one community building for the future. That's why it's important to balance the budget without walking away from our commitments to education or to the environment or to research.

As I said today at the Pike Street Market, the University of Washington is the number one recipient of Federal research investment of any public university in the United States of America. You've got a big stake in our continuing to invest in the future and building a better future.

Just in the last 4 years, I've seen the life expectancy of people with HIV and AIDS more than double in 4 years because of medical research and accelerating movement of drugs to the marketplace.

Just a few days before Christopher Reeve spoke so movingly at the Democratic National Convention about research—just a few days—for the first time in history we had an example of lower-limb movement being restored to laboratory animals that had their spines severed by nerve transplants. This is historic in its implications. To turn away from research at the time when things like this are happening is folly.

So, yes, balance the budget, but keep investing in our people and our future, so we can go forward together and grow together. You understand that here. You know that here. You know it's a part of our future, and you have to stand for it.

This has also been a great week for America's natural heritage and environment. Last night we reached an agreement to preserve the old growth forests in Washington and Oregon. This week we reached an agreement to preserve and restore salmon on the Columbia River, very important. Today I went to the Grand Canyon, which was first preserved by Theodore Roosevelt in 1908 by a declaration of Presidential monument to declare a monument in southern Utah: 1.7 million acres; the Grand Cascade-Escalante monument. It's a beautiful, priceless treasure for our people and a great thing for our country.

But we have more to do. There is a huge difference here. One party wants to build a bridge to the future; one says we should reach back and build a bridge to the past. One approach says the Government is always the problem; we'd be better off if we were on our own. My approach says—I agree with my wife's book—it takes a village to raise a child, to grow the country, to build a future.

And there is no community in America more outward-looking, more reaching out to the world, more relishing of its diversity than Seattle. And the way you live every day trying to reconcile your differences and appreciate your differences and relish them and build strength out of this community, that's what America has to do.

When Hillary and our daughter and I went to the Olympics to open them and I got to talk to the American team, it occurred to me that if the American team were to take off its uniforms and just walk around in the Olympic Village, you wouldn't have a clue where they were from. *[Laughter]* I mean we had Hispanic-Americans and we had Nordic-Americans and we had Indian- and Pakistani-Americans and we had Native Americans and we had all kinds of Asian-Americans from all over.

**Audience member.** Gay Americans!

**The President.** Yes. We had everybody and all on the Olympic team. So it occurred to me that—and I sat in the Olympic dining hall there, and I ate with these various team members and people came up to me from Ireland and from the Middle East and from various places where I've been working to try to make peace and thanked me for the

efforts of the United States. And I thought to myself—I thought to myself, here we got 197 different national groups represented at the Olympics. Our largest county, Los Angeles County, has people from over 150 of those places in one county. In Seattle, you have nearly that many. And yet, we're still somehow making it work.

But that's still our biggest challenge. You think about the time I spent as your President trying to get other people around the world to get along instead of look down on each other.

That's the last thing I will say. This is a better country in terms of our achievements, our direction, and our opportunity, our sense of civic responsibility; we're stronger, we're in better shape than we were 4 years ago. By any measure, we're in better shape than we were 4 years ago.

But if you really want to build a bridge to the 21st century, if you want to feel on a daily basis about your country the energy, the elation, the joy you are manifesting here tonight, you know as well as I do that we have to make opportunity available to everyone. We have to give everyone a chance and expect everyone to play the role of responsible citizen. And we have got to find a way to convince everybody who hasn't got it yet that we are stronger, not weaker, because of our diversity. It is our meal ticket to the future. It is our meal ticket to the future. There is not a country in the world as well-positioned for the 21st century as the United States.

**Audience member.** You know it!

**The President.** Nobody. Because of the way we're connected to the rest of the world, because of what we're doing with technology, because of our commitment to educate all of our children, because of the entrepreneurial spirit we have. But the great test is, are we going to be one community? Are we going to make a strength out of what is bedeviling so much of the rest of the world?

It breaks my heart to think that there are people in the Middle East that want to keep the war going. It breaks my heart to see that the peace in Ireland was broken by people

who would rather fight about something that happened 300 or 600 years ago, instead of letting all the Catholic and Protestant kids go forward into the future together.

It's amazing to me that in Bosnia, where they lived together in peace for decades, within a matter of months they started a 4-year war where they were killing each other's kids. That's why I over-react, by some standards, when we do things like have church burnings here or synagogues are defaced or Islamic centers are destroyed. This is a country which rests on a simple premise. We have never lived up to it perfectly, but we're getting better at it all along, which is why we're still around here after 220 years. And that simple premise is, everybody is equal in the eyes of God. If you want to be an American, what you have to do is believe in the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the Constitution and show up and behave yourself and do right, and you're part of our country, and you'll be on that bridge to the 21st century. That is what you have to do. That is what you have to do. Will you help me build that bridge?

**Audience members.** Yes!

**The President.** Will you give me 6 weeks and 6 days?

**Audience members.** Yes!

**The President.** Will you help these people to be elected so that we can construct the country we want?

**Audience members.** Yes!

**The President.** We need you. Don't get careless. Don't be taking this election for granted. Keep this spirit tonight for 6 weeks and 6 days, and you will really have something to celebrate on November 5th.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:32 p.m. at the Paramount Theater. In his remarks, he referred to actor Tom Skerritt; Kevin Quigley, candidate for 2d congressional district; Rick Locke, candidate for 4th congressional district; Jeff Coopersmith, candidate for 1st congressional district; Adam Smith, candidate for 9th congressional district. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Remarks on Beginning a Bus Tour in Tacoma, Washington

September 19, 1996

**The President.** Thank you. Thank you in the back.

**Audience members.** Four more years! Four more years! Four more years!

**The President.** Thank you. Thank you up there. Thank you very much. Well, I know that it's a little wet out here, and as I said last night, I've been coming to Washington for several years now, and it has never rained on me before. I feel that, finally, you have accepted me as one of your own.

I want to thank you for coming out in such large numbers, and I can tell that a little rain has not dampened your spirits. Are you ready to fight for the next 6 weeks and 5 days?

Thank you. Mr. Mayor. Thank you for your welcome and for your leadership. Congratulations on so many things you are doing here in Tacoma, but especially, from my point of view, congratulations on winning the President's Excellence Award for Exporting in 1994, and for keeping Tacoma and Washington open and reaching out to the rest of the world, not turning away from it. I hope you will continue to do that.

Thank you, Bridget Woods, for getting up here and making that brave speech. There aren't many 16-year-old girls speaking to 28,000 people, and you did a fine job today. Thank you. God bless you.

Thank you, Norm Dicks, for being a great Congressman and a great friend and a visionary leader, not only for the people of your district, for the people of this country. And thank you—thank you so much, Adam Smith, for running for Congress. And thank you, Jeff Coopersmith, if you're here, for running for Congress. And I want you folks to send them there. Just remember—just remember—2 years ago, just 2 years ago, our friends in the other party were crowing that Washington State had led the way in the Republican Revolution, that the people of Washington were dying to see our economic policies reversed and our crime policies reversed. They told you that we raised the income taxes of ordinary Americans; it wasn't true. And then they turned around and tried to raise the income taxes of 9 million of the hardest working

Americans in the country with kids and low incomes.

They told you that our economic plan was going to fail. Well, it's inconvenient for them, but 10½ million jobs later, record new exports, record new businesses, record businesses owned by women and minorities, 60 percent reduction in the deficit, the first time since before the Civil War the deficit's gone down in all 4 years of an administration, you now know that they were wrong in 1994. We were right. Send Adam Smith and Jeff Coopersmith to the Congress, and give Norm Dicks some help to move you forward and our country forward into the next century.

And thank you, Gary Locke, for your distinguished career in public service, for the fine and positive campaign you have run for Governor of the State of Washington. I want all of you to do what you can in the next few weeks to make sure that this fine man is the next Governor. It is very important to your future, more and more responsibilities are devolving upon the State. The next Governor of Washington will, among other things, have the responsibility of working with local communities to create an unprecedented number of new jobs for people we are trying to move from welfare to work in a way that supports families and supports children and does not walk away from our responsibilities to them. I think you know who will do a better job of that, and I hope you will help him win this election.

I want to thank the other officials who are here, but most of all, I want to tell you that you can't imagine what it's like to pull up in a bus and see 28,000 people in the morning, in Tacoma, standing in the rain. That's because you know that America is on the right track to the 21st century, and we intend to keep it on that track, and I want you to help us.

I have said before, let me say again: We are living at a moment of enormous possibility. The young people in this audience will have more chances to live out their dreams than any generation of Americans in history. If—if we build a bridge to the 21st century that opens opportunity for all, expects responsibility from all, and is big enough, broad enough, and strong enough for every American who is willing to work for it to go across,